



**CITY OF BURLINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH**

645 Pine Street, Ste. A | PO Box 849
Burlington, VT 05402-0849

PHONE: (802) 863-0442

FAX: (802) 652-4221

BOARD OF HEALTH

Caroline Tassey, APRN Interim Chair; Mary D. Hart, RN; Julie Hathaway, MD, PhD; Celia Bird, APRN, Ian McHale, MPH;

HEALTH OFFICER

William Ward, Director of Permitting & Inspections

**DRAFT MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF
BURLINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH**

Zoom Conference

Thursday, March 13, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Attending: *Caroline Tassey, William Ward, Celia Bird, Mary Hart, Ian McHale, Julie Hathaway, Celeste Crowley*

Absent:

Meeting called to order by Interim Chair Tassey at 6:33 PM

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION TAKEN
1. Approvals: a. Agenda b. Approval of July Minutes	a. March Agenda – Approve as written. b. February Minutes – Approve as written	Ian motioned, Celia 2 nd . Approved Mary motioned, Ian 2 nd . Approved
2. Public Forum	Jeff from Natural Lawns of America Councilor Pine – City of Burlington Councilor Hightower – City of Burlington	
3. Pesticide a. Natural Lawn Care – Applications for approval	Jeff from Natural Lawns of America (NLA) attended the meeting to answer any questions regarding the application(s) his company submitted for pesticide use in Burlington's Buffer Zone. The Board of Health members reviewed the application submitted, along with the list of properties NLA included on the application. The product safety sheets were also discussed and reviewed.	

The first observation was that the application and list of properties did not include how much product was to be used and/or how many times they needed to apply the product.

Jeff mentioned that it was hard to determine without seeing the properties and they strive to use the minimal amount necessary to eradicate the weeds and/or pests.

The BOH reviewed the application process as; once you see the property and determine what is needed and how much, that that is the time an application gets submitted. And that, this should be part of their process in educating their customers about the City's approval process.

The biggest concern for NLA was that pest control and weed control are cyclical and the window to eradicate them could be compromised due to the City's approval process.

The BOH's most pressing concern was which products have the potential to seep into the lake and what are the harmful effects it would have. Jeff mentioned that a few of the products would tend to leach into the lake and they would be harmful to invertebrates.

It was suggested by the BOH members to have the product safety sheets emailed to the City Arborist for review and that some of the products may be banned altogether. Jeff from NLA thought this was fair and will wait to hear the results.

The BOH decided that the application submitted with the list of properties is not sufficient for approval. Therefore at this time, the applications were denied until specific amounts and number of times the product will be applied have been provided.

The BOH also assured NLA that we could work with them to approve applications as quickly as possible, once submitted, so that NLA does not lose their window of opportunity to eradicate the weeds/pests on any given property.

<p>4. Burlington Police Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Staffing Numbers b. Dr. Seguino, UVM Department of Economics 	<p>Dr. Seguino began the discussion by presenting data received from the Burlington Police Department (BPD). The data covered 2012-2019 and was based on the number of service calls and types of calls received by the BPD during those years.</p> <p>There are three categories of calls;</p> <p>Type 1 – traffic stops, suspicious events, noise complaints</p> <p>Type 2 – disorderly conduct, larceny, mental health</p> <p>Type 3 – domestic violence, assault, robberies</p> <p>The highest volume of service calls was for Type 1 calls, 65%, Type 2 was 30%, and Type 3 was 5%.</p> <p>Of the Type 1 calls, Mental Health made up the vast majority of service calls to BPD and burglaries had the biggest decrease during the 2012-2019 time frame.</p> <p>Staffing numbers</p> <p>The presentation led to the discussion of the current staffing is 79. The City Council is proposing a decreased to 74 or lower.</p> <p>One area of restructuring that has been put into place is taking multiple officers off the rotation for mental health and traffic service calls. There have been two categories created;</p> <p>Community Service Officers (CSO) are uniformed officers.</p> <p>Community Support Liaisons (CSL) are qualified mental health workers.</p> <p>CSOs will be first on scene for traffic calls which will eliminate multiple officers replying to the same call.</p> <p>CSLs will be a group of, up to 6, mental health professionals hired to respond to mental health service calls. They will be accompanied by one uniformed officer, for safety. Up until now, two officers would respond to a mental health service call with no mental health professional.</p>	

	<p>The Board of Health will be reviewing this matter in depth as any changes to the Police staffing will have a significant effect on the public health. This discussion has raised a number of questions that need to be examined in order to see the pros and cons of reducing the officers at BPD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review data presented - Review City Council data and discussions - Determine the public health pros and cons <p>This discussion will be continued in future Board of Health meetings.</p>	
<p>5. Chair Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Marijuana Card b. Hepatitis A 	No new information for these items at this time.	
6. Eradicating Systemic Racism	There was no formal topic for this agenda item, but the Item 4 Burlington Police Department discussion is a direct relation to this topic.	
Appendix A	<p>General discussion amongst the Board of Health members; add the Zoom “Chat” history into the minutes. Bill Ward said that we do have the option in Zoom to save the chat entries, and he will have them attached to the minutes going forward.</p> <p>There was also a discussion regarding donations and what criteria would the BOH use to determine a donation from BOH to any given organization. This topic will be revisited at future meetings.</p>	
7. Emerging Issues		
<p>8. Public Outreach / Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Front Porch Forum b. Mask Handout Events 	<p>Front Porch Forum –</p> <p>Mask Handout Events – No events are planned but the Library is in need of more masks.</p>	
9. Next Meeting	Thursday, April 8, at 6:30pm	Meet via Zoom

10. Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm	Mary motioned, Celia 2 nd .